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(c) Under the Elementary Education Act, the power of recognition vests in the District Educational Council and an appeal lies to the Director of Public Instruction.

(d) It is understood that Roman Catholics are not ordinarily permitted to attend non-Catholic schools. Recognition has not been refused to non-communal aided schools started in places where there are communal schools. Local bodies are not as a rule advised to open schools in places where there are already recognized Catholic or non-Catholic schools.

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" May I enquire whether, where there are two schools one a Catholic school and another non-Catholic school which is either a Government or local board school, it is a fact that as a rule the Catholic school is preferred even by Hindus ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" I am authorized to answer this, Sir. It is left to the discretion of the parents concerned."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" The answer given by Government is not according to facts. May I know if it is a fact ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Correct so far as our information goes."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" My question is whether it is correct."

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" I have no reason to doubt it."

Commercial and industrial schools in the Presidency.

* 1301 Q.—K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many commercial and industrial schools are now in existence in this Presidency managed by the Government and private agencies and where ;

(b) how many students are studying in each institution ;

(c) the amount spent by the Government for each Government institution ; and

(d) the amount spent by the Government by way of grant-in-aid for each of the institutions managed by private agencies ?

A.—(a) to (d) The hon Member is referred to subsidiary table A No. 6 (b) appended to the Report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency for the year 1925–26, Volume II, and to Appendices I and II to the Report of the Department of Industries, Madras, for the year 1926–27 which have been placed on the Editors' Table.

Subsidies to local bodies for secondary schools.

* 1302 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : With reference to the answer to question No. 102 answered on 24th August 1927, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any departmental rules based on certain accepted principles have been framed in dealing with the question of subsidies to local bodies for secondary schools ;

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(b) if so, whether he will place them on the table of the House ;

(c) whether contributions were being paid to local bodies and municipal councils before the passing of the Madras Elementary Education Act ;

(d) if so, on what principles those contributions were based ; and

(e) whether he will be pleased to place on the table of the House a statement giving details of grants hitherto paid to local bodies and municipalities under section 37 of the Madras Elementary Education Act ?

A.—(a) & (b) No rules have been framed. Each case is considered on its merits.

(c) Yes.

(d) Subsidies for elementary education were paid with reference to the needs of individual local bodies and their financial condition.

(e) The contribution payable from Provincial funds under section 37 of the Elementary Education Act in respect of the education tax collected by a local body varies from year to year with reference to the proceeds of the tax. The Government contribution payable in respect of the tax collected in a year is paid in the next year. A statement[a] showing the amounts paid in 1926–27 and another statement[a] showing the annual contribution payable to the local boards and municipalities under the proviso to section 37 are placed on the table.

Libraries

Annual grants to the Connemara Library for the purchase of books.

*1303 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the annual grant sanctioned for the Connemara Public Library for the purchase of books for each of the last five years ; and

(b) the total number of books purchased for the Connemara Public Library from year to year as compared with the Madras University Library during the past ten years ?

A.—(a) The amount spent on the purchase of books and periodicals for the Connemara Public Library during each of the last five years is given below :—

Year.	Amount.
	RS.
1922–23	3,000
1923–24	3,000
1924–25	3,000
1925–26	4,666
1926–27	5,137

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 97–100 infra.